

Bureau  
of  
**Local  
Development**

*The Division of Housing and Community Development has a broad range of financial and technical assistance programs to increase affordable housing options, assist homeless persons, improve community vitality, and expand economic opportunities. By providing these resources through local governments and other agencies low-moderate income Wisconsin households, communities, and businesses benefit from these programs.*

**Communities considering a development project** that requires planning and addresses business development, the expansion of affordable housing, the reuse of vacant land or building and related activities that will serve both citizens and businesses in the community through the provision of housing, jobs, and expanded tax base can apply for funding through the Community Development Block Grant Planning Program.

**Further Division assistance** may take the form of Public Facilities or Public Facilities for Economic Development grants. These programs benefit communities that need to upgrade their infrastructures to meet the needs of businesses expanding or new to the community.

**When public improvement projects** require some Wisconsin residents and businesses to move from their existing homes or sites, Relocation Assistance staff can help to ensure the displacing agency complies with Relocation Plan requirements.

**Funds to assist economic development** at the grass roots level are available through the Community-Based Economic Development Program and CDBG-Planning. These grants can help communities prepare economic development plans, assist specific businesses, support business incubators, promote venture capital, and foster regional economic development efforts.

**Communities and businesses** may also be aided in their efforts to develop environmentally contaminated areas through grants provided under the Brownfields Initiative and the Blight Elimination and Brownfield Redevelopment Program.

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**In times of disaster**, the Division can offer communities prompt assistance with clean-up activities and with recovery efforts including repairing of housing and municipal infrastructure through funding provided by the Emergency Program.

**The Division helps** expand affordable housing and supports services to people without housing. The Division manages federal and state programs that aid the elderly, people with disabilities, low- and moderate-income residents and homeless persons by working with local government, private and non-profit housing organizations to deliver financial and technical housing assistance.

**Strong communities** are healthy communities. The Division's Health Professions Loan Assistance Program offer incentives to health care professionals who agree to locate in under-served rural and urban areas of the state.

**Downtown business districts** are on the rise in many Wisconsin communities, thanks to efforts of local citizens and the Wisconsin Main Street Program. Local communities, as well as individual businesses, are strengthened as the result of revitalized downtowns that have come about with assistance from Main Street staff.

**In all of these cases**, the Division's financial support is coupled with expert technical assistance.

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***For more information*** about Division of Housing and Community Development programs, contact Don Barnum at 608/266-7531 or Lorie Ham at 608/267-3895. Also, visit the Division of Housing Community Development website at <http://commerce.wi.gov>

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